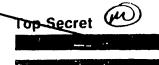


Director of Central Intelligence



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CHILE:

Persistent Political Unrest

Student agitation and prospects for a national strike on 2-3 July are keeping the government off balance

the university student strike that began on 16 June has produced violent daily clashes with the security services, several hundred arrests, and considerable property damage. Ithe arrest and reported torture of seven student leaders last Friday has strengthened the hand of radical leaders and may cause greater violence over the next few days.

Meanwhile the Communists are working hard to build support for the national strike called by the broadly based Civic Assembly opposition group.

Comment: The coverage of

Comment: The government's harsh actions against the students and its determination to crush the general strike, combined with Pinochet's obdurate stance on political liberalization, probably are causing concern among a growing number of military officers. The longer student agitation goes unchecked, the greater are chances for a successful national strike. A strike, particularly a violent one, might convince a majority of senior officers that Pinochet's policies are creating an irreversible polarization within the country.

